MONTAGUE COUNTY PROCLAMATION DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH OCTOBER 2019

Whereas, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that domestic violence is widespread and impacts every community member in Montague County; and

Whereas, Domestic Violence is the leading cause of injury to women, and that 92% of women surveyed listed reducing domestic violence and sexual assault as their top concerns, and that everyday more than three women are murdered by their intimate partner, and the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide by 500%; and

Whereas, 1 in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year, and 90% of these children are eyewitnesses to this violence; and 19.3 million women and 5.1 million men in the United States have been stalked in their lifetime; and

Whereas, the costs of intimate partner violence in the US exceeds \$8.3 billion per year, and victims of domestic violence lose nearly 8 million days of paid work per year in the US; and

Whereas, with education and a community wide effort at addressing and finding solutions to this devastating social ill, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is evidence that we can be successful in reducing the instances of domestic violence for the betterment of Montague County; and

Whereas, Wise Hope Crisis Center of Montague County offers safety, strength, and hope to victims of abuse through education and social services referrals, along with domestic violence survivors themselves who have been at the forefront of efforts to bring peace and equality to the home,

Now therefore be it resolved, that I, RICK LEWIS , Montague County Judge, do hereby proclaim the month of October to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge all Montague County citizens to actively participate in the effort to eradicating domestic violence, improving victim safety, and holding perpetrators of domestic abuse accountable for their actions against individual victims and our society as a whole.

Dated and Approved this $\frac{\partial S^{(1)}}{\partial S^{(2)}}$ day of September, 2019

County of Montague

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